THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840.]

"Time, like a river, rolls imperceptibly away, till it loses itself in the vast ocean of eternity. Happy they who mark its periods by deeds which shall bear record when time itself shall be no more."

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THE FIRST PRESIDENCY'S CHRISTMAS GREETING.

GREETING to the Latter-day Saints: The happy Christmas-tide is again at our doors. Another year has gone since we sent you our last Christmas greeting. How many events have occurred during this time for the weal or woe of mankind! Only a few of these happenings will ever be known to other than those immediately concerned. Events of national importance become known almost universally the same day they take place, through the marvelous means of communication of the twentieth century.

The passing year has been pregnant with terrestrial convulsions, and nineteen six bids fair to be long remembered for its volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tidal waves, and numerous other alarming phenomena which impress upon men's minds the unstability of all earthly things, even of the very earth itself; and human governments and society seem to partake of the disquietude and unrest. Thrones are tottering and men's hearts are failing them for fear. The bitter struggle between the Reactionary party and Liberals in Russia presents a spectacle that enlists our sympathy for the down-trodden masses of that vast empire.

The Jews have suffered persecution in its most dreadful form in many of the Russian provinces. Without any given cause great numbers have been massacred by their neighbors under the influence of religious hatred and bigotry. The Polish people feel as keenly to-day the loss of their independence as they did when the

infamous division was made of their land by their greedy neighbors. The Poles were deeply wronged. They love liberty and independence, and to obtain it they often plunge into an unequal struggle that only fastens the yoke still firmer upon their necks.

The dissolution of the union between Sweden and Norway without bloodshed is a unique event in history. Much credit is due to the wise king of Sweden for the happy solution of this knotty question. The Norwegians are to be commended for the sensible choice they made in choosing King Haakon the VII. Being the son of the Danish king, a grandson of King Charles XV. of Sweden, a relative of the present king, and a son-in-law of King Edward of England, he is closely connected with the neighboring dynasties. If relationship counts in politics he sits securely on the throne of the rock-ribbed land of the sturdy descendants of the Vikings. The Danish nation is industriously developing its agricultural resources and forcing itself to the front in dairying, poultry-raising and other branches of mixed farming. The emperor of Germany has but one aim, that of making his beloved country great both on the sea and on the land. To create a navy and maintain his superb army makes the burden of his subjects almost unbearable. The undaunted Hollanders continue their fight against the devouring waves of the North Sea. To keep up and strengthen the dykes requires much thought and enormous sums of money. If the dykes were neglected, much of that thrifty kingdom would become an enlarged Zuyder Zee. Densely populated Belgium keeps her looms and factories busy. Austria—an empire of several nations and races, speaking different languages—has a difficult problem to solve, that of bringing a mass of incongruous elements into a state of homogeneity. Many of the sons of Italy cross the ocean to seek work in our land, but they never forget their sunny homes in their own beautiful fatherland. Spain is recovering from her terrible defeat in the war with the United States. Contrary to the expectations of statesmen France is building the republic on a solid basis. The government has ventured to separate church and state, making the clergy look to their parishoners for support instead of the state. This will not be accomplished without a hard struggle. England is still the proud mistress of the sea. Canada is rapidly settling up her immense domain, thereby extending the area of food-producing land on the globe. Our own country stands in the foremost ranks of nations. The Executive of the nation has written his name to remain on the pages of history for fearlessness, honesty of purpose and wise statemanship. General prosperity reigns in the land. Great enterprises have been undertaken. The Panama canal will be the most stupendous of useful works commenced by man. None of the "seven wonders of the world" compares with it. It may take years to accomplish it, but American enterprise is behind it and will make it a success.

The Latter-day Saints have much to be thankful for in contem-

plating the past year. Abundant crops reward the labors of the husbandman. While in some parts the unusual amount of moisture destroyed the wheat by rust and caused great loss, yet other cereals were grown successfully. Never in the history of beet raising have such crops been produced. This industry has brought large sums of money into the hands of the farmers, which would not have been realized in the cultivation of other crops. The sheep industry also has been very profitable, wool having demanded a high price, as also has the mutton. We regret that no more has been done in the line of manufactures. Home industries should be encouraged. We approve of the aims of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, and the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association. Much can be done in that line that would help to give the unemployed work and keep our young people at home.

While we are thankful for the general prosperity our people are enjoying in temporalities, we rejoice still more in the spiritual progress that is manifest among the Saints, and this in spite of the bitter and unrelenting opposition which they have met both at home and abroad. Some of those who are weak in the faith may have been affected somewhat by the scurrilous attacks made upon the leaders of the Church, but the majority of the Saints have thereby been more closely knitted together and have become more determined to honor the covenants they have made with the Lord. They see in the persecution they meet an illustration of the words of the Savior: "If ye were of the world, the world would love its own." They feel a comfort in knowing that in that sense they are not of the world, and they are willing to bear the indignities heaped upon them, knowing that He whom they serve will preserve them and overrule for good what their enemies devise for their overthrow.

The love of the Saints for their religion is shown by their great activity in building houses of worship. The settling of this country has been done under many difficulties. The people were poor and had to produce their all from the soil. They could not build elaborate edifices, hence the log school-house was the first public building in the new settlement, and this had to serve many purposes. Beside being a temple of learning it was used on the Sunday for public worship, and during the week for amusements, etc. As the people grew in wealth they changed the small log house for the elegant and commodious school buildings that we now see dotting our state. We are proud of what the people have done in that direction, and we doubt whether another state can be found where the same number of people have done as much for the education of their children without state help or endowment as has Utah. The meetinghouses were not forgotten, and in nearly every town and hamlet are found substantial houses of worship. During the past year many Church edifices have been finished, and a number are now under construction, of which some are very costly. This

activity has not been confined to Zion alone, but in the missions abroad the Elders and the Saints have felt the need of having houses of worship belonging to the Church. In Tahiti our people have just dedicated a fine building for meetings, and also a commodious house for the headquarters of that mission. In Aalborg, Denmark, a suitable meetinghouse will shortly be finished. The headquarters for the European mission will soon be located in an excellent building facing Wavertree Park, Liverpool. A feature of building meetinghouses abroad should not be forgotten, namely, the fact that our Elders in connection with their missionary labors have been willing to take hold of the trowel, the saw and the paint brush. This has endeared them to the Saints and gained them the respect of outsiders who were acquainted with the fact that they were doing this work without compensation and at the same time meeting their own expenses. The buildings in Tahiti were constructed entirely by our missionaries, and are considered among the best in Papeete. The American consul expressed the wish to have them build a new consulate. One of the Elders drew the plans for such a building, which were accepted by the government.

During the past year the efficiency of our Church schools has been greatly increased, and the Church has made much larger appropriations toward this end than at any time since the Church school system was established. The aim of these schools is to give our young people a thorough knowledge of the principles of the Gospel and implant in their hearts a love for truth, virtue and righteousness, and in addition to this to give a thorough high school course in all of them, and in some few of the schools a college course, preparing our young people to take higher studies at our State University or the universities abroad, if the students desire to qualify themselves in some of the professions. We think that many who go East to study might receive instruction as good, if not better, in our home institutions of learning. We feel much gratified with the good work done in our Church schools and the patronage given them.

Our missionaries have labored zealously for the spread of the truth. The presidents of the different missions are watching over the work of the Elders and directing their work in a systematic way, that no place shall be left unvisited, but that all people may have an opportunity of hearing the glorious principles of salvation. The Elders are untiring in their endeavors to fill their callings to the acceptance of their Heavenly Father. The results of their labors have been very encouraging and a great number of baptisms is reported. The number of tracts and books distributed exceeds that of any previous year. An edition of the Book of Mormon in Turkish has been published and is being distributed among the Sultan's subjects. A translation of the Book of Mormon into Japanese is nearing its completion. Periodicals are being published

in several of the missions, and are having a large circulation. Some of the missions desire to have a mission paper printed, to take the place of the tracts, and as this would be published regularly it would keep before the people new issues arising and the experiences of the Elders, as well as explaining the doctrines of the Church. We think such a plan feasible and that it will be productive of much good.

We feel to commend the Saints for the pronounced union and fidelity manifested by them during the past year. The increase in tithing shows an expanding love for the Gospel. The great numbers flocking to the temples bear testimony to the growing faith of the members of the Church in the revealed principles of truth.

The many eruptions, earthquakes and tidal waves which have occurred during the past year are signs which the Savior declared should foreshadow His second coming. Although He said His advent would be as a thief in the night, still He gave certain signs which would indicate as surely His coming as the budding trees the coming of summer. The wise and prudent will heed the warning and prepare themselves that they be not taken unawares. Not the least of the signs of the times is this, that the Gospel is being preached unto the poor as a witness unto all nations.

In relation to internal affairs in the various stakes a healthy progressive spirit has been manifested in almost every part of Zion. A number of new wards and branches have been organized during the year, among which we may mention the Twenty-fourth Ward, of the Salt Lake Stake; Turner Ward, Bannock Stake; Murray Second Ward, Granite Stake; Lost River Ward, Idaho; a Branch at Tombstone, Arizona, and the division of Smithfield, Cache Stake, into two wards.

During the year a number of prominent brethren and sisters have left us to join the great majority on the other side. Amongst them may be mentioned Elder Marriner W. Merrill, of the Council of the Apostles, Presidents Jesse N. Smith, of the Snowflake Stake, Joseph Morrell of Cache, Charles O. Card, of Alberta, and Counselor Samuel Francis of the Morgan Stake. As well known pioneers, we may speak of Elders Robert Gardner, of Pine Valley, William Farrer, of Provo, and Moses F. Farnsworth of the Manti Temple; also Joseph G. Fones and Ebenezer Beesley, pioneer musicians, and Homer Duncan, one of the oldest members of the Church. Amongst our sisters who have passed away are Mary H. Snow, widow of President Lorenzo Snow; Sarah D. Woodruff, widow of President Woodruff; Hannah M. L. Smith, the widow of President George A. Smith, and Sister Emily H. Woodmansee, the poetess, and many others worthy of mention, omitted for lack of space.

In conclusion we sincerely pray that the coming year may be a prosperous one, and that the Latter-day Saints may be abundantly blessed both temporally and spiritually, and that in their prosper-

ity they will ever remember the beneficent Giver of all they receive.

We wish our people a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Your Brethren in the Gospel of Christ,

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHON H. LUND.

Deseret News.

ROOM FOR THE RESURRECTION.

SOME have supposed that if the billions of the dead were resurrected, there would not be room for them on the earth; and that if there should be room for them, the earth would not be capable of sustaining so large a population. It is even claimed by some that the earth is one vast graveyard, and that if all the dead were awakened they would trample one upon another for want of room.

This is an important point. How strange it would be if we should find that while the Bible declares a resurrection for all men, yet, by actual measurement, they could not find a footing on the earth! Now let us see: figure it out and you will find this an unfounded fear.

Let us assume that it is six thousand years since the creation of man, and that there are fourteen hundred millions of people now living on the earth. Our race began with one pair, but let us make a very liberal estimate and suppose that there were as many at the beginning as there are now; and, further, that there never were fewer than that number at any time, though actually the flood reduced the population to eight persons. Again, let us be liberal, and estimate these generations to a century, or thirty-three years to a generation, though, according to Genesis 5, there were but eleven generations from Adam to the flood, a period of one thousand six hundred and fifty-six years, or about one hundred and fifty years to each generation. Now let us see: six thousand years are sixty centuries; three generations to each century would give us one hundred and eighty generations since Adam; and fourteen hundred millions to a generation would give two hundred and fifty-two billions (252,000,000,000) as the total number of our race from creation to the present time, according to this liberal estimate, which is probably more than twice the actual number.

Where shall we find room enough for this great multitude? Let us measure the land, and see. The State of Texas, United States, contains two hundred and thirty-seven thousand square miles. There are twenty-seven million eight hundred and seventy-eight thousand four hundred square feet in a mile, and, therefore, six trillion six hundred and seven billion one hundred and eighty million eight hundred thousand (6,607,180,800,000) square feet in Texas. Allowing ten square feet as the surface covered by each

dead body, we find that Texas, as a cemetery, would at this rate hold six hundred and sixty billion seven hundred and eighteen million and eighty thousand (660,718,080,000) bodies, or nearly three times as many as our exaggerated estimate of the numbers of our race who have lived on the earth.

A person standing occupies about one and two-thirds square feet of space. At this rate the present population of the earth (one billion four hundred million persons) could stand on an area of eighty-six square miles—an area much less than that of the city of London or of Philadelphia. And the island of Ireland (area, thirty-two thousand square miles) would furnish standing-room for more than twice the number of people who had ever lived on the earth even at our exaggerated estimate.—*Zion's Watch Tower.*

THE COUNTRY PARSON.

A WRITER in the *Contemporary Review* has some "straight talk" about the country clergy. He says: "The parson when he takes orders knows perfectly well what his chances are. The Church may possibly give him wealth, will, probably, give him what he calls only a pittance. If he is a man, he will accept it without unmanly wailing, will take his poverty as a gift from God. He should be contented to live like a laboring man, and he has time to teach his children.

"Stop. There is the rub. How about the future of his children? I say that he should educate his children to be the leaven of the laboring class. What is the good of shoving a responsibility a generation on? If your children are on the plateau, your grandchildren will be of the plain. It is better to step down in your strength than fall down in your weakness.

"The country clergy have hitherto taken the degradation of the country laborer as a matter of course. They have ministered to his soul, they have dribbled doles to his body, but they have left his social position alone.

"The first poor country parson who deliberately brings up his own boys to be country laborers will put a screw-jack under the whole class. All England will see that the position will have to be raised until it is compatible with self-respect.

"A peasant priesthood, marrying among the poor and elevating by the possibility of election to the position of the parson's wife the whole standard of the present village maiden, feeding the ranks of labor with sturdy rustics brought up in a healthy home atmosphere, with housemaids who sweep floors as by God's laws and think of something beyond penny fashion papers. If the church could give England this, she would be doing a work that might save England at the same time that it propped her own fabric."

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1907.

MALIGNING THE "MORMONS."

A NUMBER of newspapers have published an account of a disturbance at Ipswich, in which a Suffolk farmer, with the aid of a huge crowbar, wrecked a movable mission-hall belonging to the "No-sect Evangelists," who have been preaching and proselyting at that place. According to the story told in those journals, two daughters of the farmer had joined the sect, much to his wrath and indignation, and one of them had been sent to Belfast, where the "Evangelists" had their headquarters. The father had traced her to that point, and stated that she was acting as a servant, with a cap and apron. His endeavors to prevail upon her to return home with him utterly failed. He took his revenge upon the outfit by wrenching the doors off the hinges of their movable meeting-house, smashing the windows and lamps, destroying the organ and damaging the sides of the building. For this he was arrested, and although the complaining preacher was subjected to a caustic and searching examination by the defendant's lawyer, the case was proved and the irate farmer was fined £1, with £4 12s. 6d. damages, and £2 5s. costs, by the court, or one month's imprisonment. This goes to show that the law was vindicated, notwithstanding the unpopularity of the sect that made the complaint.

Our reason for referring to this matter in the STAR is that the papers which published the account stated, by large headlines and otherwise, that the father was taking revenge on the "Mormons;" that the preachers who were assailed were "Mormons," and that they had been inducing young men and women to leave their homes and sending a great many young girls abroad. Of course, these parts of the story are false and misleading. The Liverpool *Echo*, which repeated the Ipswich rumor, very courteously and fairly, published a refutation in its evening edition of Thursday, December 27th, 1906. Our Elders should endeavor to obtain the publication of similar contradictions in every paper that has repeated the libel.

The Latter-day Saints, or "Mormons," are not associated in any way with the "No-sect Evangelists." There is no good reason or

excuse for connecting the two religious bodies. The Latter-day Saints do not use "movable meeting-halls." They are not engaged in sending young girls abroad. They do not baptize into their Church young people without the consent of their parents, nor even a married woman contrary to the objection of her husband. While the "No-sect Evangelists" claim only three hundred and fifty members, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints numbers, at least, that many thousands. The evidence produced at the trial of the case elicited nothing that associated the "Mormons" with the people whose property was damaged.

The prejudice existing against the Latter-day Saints is largely caused by just such misrepresentations as those to which we now draw attention. The individuals responsible for those defamations are laying up a large debit account which they will have to meet in the great day of reckoning, when the books will be opened and all mankind will be judged out of the things that are written in the books, according to their works. We leave them in the hands of the Almighty Judge of human affairs, who searches the hearts and discerns the motives of the children of men, and verily they will have their reward.

Anyone desiring to obtain the facts concerning the "Mormon" emigration to America can do so by investigation at the shipping offices where that business is transacted; the White Star Line has carried those passengers for several years, and their lists would show that people who go to America in order to proceed to Utah are usually in families, who pay for their own passages both by sea and by land, and that there is no such exportation of young women as the prurient imagination of some defamers frequently suggests. The fact is that there are thousands of young unmarried women in Utah, and even if plural marriage was practised there, as some people mistakenly suppose, there is not any need for overcrowding the matrimonial market in such a manner.

"Mormon" missionaries are not engaged in any occupation like that attributed to them. They are preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, restored to the earth with all its principles, gifts, blessings, ordinances and authority as it was delivered by the Savior in times of old, and they have no inducements to offer, except the light and power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit in direct witness of the truth of their doctrines. They bear their own expenses. They rely on the Lord for their success. They break no law. They infringe upon no man's or woman's rights. They are after no personal advantages. They are under the most solemn obligations to refrain from evil of every kind. They live honorable, temperate and moral lives, and set an example worthy the imitation of all men.

To malign and defame them is a shame and a disgrace to those preachers and writers who delight in spreading abroad such falsehoods as occasionally appear in the public prints and are proclaimed from some of the pulpits. The stories that are put in circulation

concerning them come, usually, from persons who are unable to refute their arguments and testimony, and are evidence of the weakness of the opposition raised against them.

The Lord has commenced the great latter-day work spoken of by the holy prophets of old. It is accompanied by the same Spirit that inspired their predictions, and it occasions similar antagonism from this wicked world that led to the slaying of the apostles of Jesus Christ and the nailing of the Savior to the cross on Calvary. If those persons who dissent from our doctrines wish to controvert the articles of our faith, they have the undoubted right to set forth their "strong reasons;" but they are not justified in spreading false reports or making endeavors to bring trouble and injury upon the Latter-day Saints. "Truth is mighty and will prevail."

C. W. P.

WE have just received the Christmas edition of the *Deseret News*, a magnificent number, containing 116 pages, the finest Christmas edition of any daily newspaper in the world.

The "Star" in New Dress.—The MILLENNIAL STAR comes from the press this week clad in a new dress—its New Year gift. We feel sure that its readers will appreciate the change of type. It is larger and bolder than that used in previous volumes, and while it takes up a little more space, the reduction in the amount of reading matter is very small indeed. This is but one of the improvements recommended by President Penrose, the editor, who desires to see the journal hold its high place among the publications of the Church.

President Roosevelt and Race Suicide.—President Roosevelt, in his recent message to Congress, said: "When home ties are loosened; when men and women cease to regard a worthy family life, with all its duties fully performed, and all its responsibilities lived up to, as the life best worth living, then evil days for the commonwealth are at hand. There are regions in our land, and classes of our population, where the birth rate has sunk below the death rate. Surely it should need no demonstration to show that wilful sterility is, from the standpoint of the nation, from the standpoint of the human race, the one sin for which the penalty is national death, race death; a sin for which there is no atonement; a sin which is the more dreadful exactly in proportion as the men and women guilty thereof are in other respects, in character, and bodily and mental powers, those whom for the sake of the state it would be well to see fathers and mothers of many healthy children, well brought up in homes made happy by their presence. No man, no woman, can shirk the primary duties of life, whether for love of ease and pleasure, or for any other cause, and retain his or her self-respect."

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS AND THE WORLD.

By Elder William A. Morton.

(*Continued from page 823.*)

The World:—According to the doctrines of your Church a man must be born of water and of the Spirit before he can enter the kingdom of God?

Latter-day Saints:—In this we simply reiterate what Jesus said to the anxious Jewish ruler, Nicodemus. These are His words: "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." (John 3: 5.) These are the words of the Son of God, and whenever He speaks all discussion should be closed.

The World:—You explained to us in the last examination that being born of the water means being baptized in water: what are we to understand by being born of the Spirit?

Latter-day Saints:—To be born of the Spirit means to be baptized with the Holy Ghost. All men must receive these two baptisms before they can become the sons of God. By being born of the flesh we become the sons of men; by being born of water and of the Spirit we become the sons of God. We desire you to hear the testimony of John the Baptist on this important matter.

TESTIMONY OF JOHN.

The World:—John, you told us on two former occasions that you were sent of God to prepare the way for the coming of His Only Begotten Son. What did you teach the people they had to do in order to be accepted of the Lord and admitted into His kingdom?

John:—I told them that they would have to repent of their sins and be baptized in water for the remission of their sins. I promised the people that if they would do these things, when Christ would come He would baptize them with a higher baptism—the baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire. (Matt. 3: 11.)

The World:—You baptized the Christ?

John:—I did. The ordinance was performed in the river Jordan. As soon as Jesus came up out of the water the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God descended like a dove and rested upon Him, and then was heard the voice of God out of heaven, saying, "Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Mark 1: 9-12.) Thus was Jesus born of the water and of the Spirit, and all men must follow the example of the Redeemer of the world if they expect to become heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ.

The World:—Did you promise the Holy Ghost to all those whom you baptized?

John:—I did. I said to them, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." (Matt. 3: 11.)

The World:—You are excused, John.

Latter-day Saints:—Our next witness is the Apostle John.

JOHN'S TESTIMONY.

The World:—You are an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ?

John:—I am.

The World:—John the Baptist promised those who believed in Christ and who had repented and been baptized for the remission of their sins that the Messiah would baptize them with the Holy Ghost and with fire. Did you receive that higher baptism?

John:—I did, but not until Christ had fulfilled His mission and had returned to His Father. While the Savior was with us He was our Teacher, our Guide and our Comforter; but when He ascended up on high we received from the Father the other Comforter, the Holy Ghost, who was to abide within us forever. During His sojourn with us, Jesus referred quite often to the Divine Spirit which His Father would confer upon us after His departure. On different occasions He said to us: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14: 26.) "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me." (John 15: 26.) "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." (John 16: 13, 14.) "And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto the magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: for the Holy Ghost shall teach you in that same hour what ye ought to say." (Luke 12: 11, 12.) "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." (John 16: 7.) "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father unto you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." (Luke 24: 49.)

The World:—How was the Holy Ghost conferred upon the people?

John:—Through prayer and by the imposition of hands.

The World:—Did you receive the Holy Ghost in this manner?

John:—I did, and so did the rest of the Apostles. Jesus said to us, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever." (John 14: 16.) He led us out as far as Bethany, where He lifted up His hands and blessed us; He then breathed on us, and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." (Luke 24: 50; John 20: 22.)

The World:—That is all, John.

Latter-day Saints:—Our next witness, the Apostle Peter, is ready to be examined.

The World:—We will listen to his testimony.

PETER TESTIFIES.

The World:—Did you also receive from Christ the promise of the Holy Ghost?

Peter:—I did. After His resurrection, the Lord appeared to us as we were assembled together, and commanded us that we should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, "which," said He, "ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." (Acts 1: 4, 5.)

The World:—When did you receive the gift of the Holy Ghost?

Peter:—On the day of Pentecost. The Apostles were assembled together, and suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where we were sitting. And there appeared unto us cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of us. And we were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave us utterance. (Acts 2: 2-4.)

The World:—Were the Apostles the only ones who received the Holy Ghost?

PETER:—They were not. The Lord is not a respecter of persons; in every nation he that feareth God and keepeth His commandments is accepted of Him. John assured all his baptized converts that they would receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. After being endowed with the Divine Spirit, the Apostles stood up before a great multitude of people and bore witness of the resurrection of Christ. Thousands of people, on beholding the glorious outpouring of the Holy Ghost, and perceiving the power by which we spake, were pricked in their hearts, and cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" This is what I said unto them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." (Acts 2: 38, 39.)

The World:—Did Christ give you authority to confer the Holy Ghost upon those who believed on your words and obeyed the Gospel?

Peter:—He did, and also to the other Apostles. He said to us: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1: 8.) After His resurrection the Lord appeared unto us and commissioned us to go forth and preach the Gospel.

"Go ye into all the world," said He, "and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." (Mark 16: 15-18.)

The World:—We have been taught that these signs were only to follow the Apostles and the believers in that age; that they were given to assist in establishing Christianity; and that when Christianity became established they were done away with and were no longer needed.

Latter-day Saints:—We know that that is the teaching of professed ministers of the Gospel, but it is in direct opposition to the teaching of Christ and His Apostles. "Christ places the preaching, believing, salvation, and the signs that were to follow, all on an equal footing; where one was limited, the other must be; where one ceased, the other did. If the language limits the signs to the Apostles, it limits salvation to them also. If no others were to have these signs follow them then no others were to believe, and no others were to be saved. If the language limits these signs to the first age or ages of Christianity, then it limits salvation to the first ages of Christianity, for one is as precisely as much limited as the other; and where one is in force, the other is; and where one ends, the other must stop. As well might we say, preaching of the Gospel is no longer needed; neither faith nor salvation; these were only given at first to establish the Gospel; as to say, the signs are no longer neeessary, they were only given at first to establish the Gospel."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Change of Address.—The headquarters of the Irish conference has been changed from 9 Pakenham Street to 41 Cromwell Road, Belfast.

Baptisms.—Elder Thomas O. King reports an addition of four members to the Church at Loughborough. The baptismal service was performed at Nottingham on December 15th, 1906, Elder Joseph Perry officiating.

Seven members were added to the Preston branch on the 27th ult. On that date a baptismal service was held in Preston Corporation Baths, when Elder Arthur F. Gailey administered the ordinance of baptism to seven converts.

On Sunday morning, December 23rd, 1906, a baptismal service was held in the Corporation Baths, Hanley, when four persons

were added to the Church. President William A. Noble conducted the service and gave some timely instructions to the converts. Elder William J. Hadley officiated in the ordinance of baptism. A confirmation service was held in the afternoon at the hall.

Four more converts were added to the Church in Liverpool on the 31st ult., making a total of seventeen in six weeks. The baptismal service was held in Cornwallis Street Baths, Elder Edgar E. Peterberg officiating.

On Sunday, December 30th, 1906, four members were added to the Aberdeen branch. Elder George W. Moench officiated at the baptismal service, which was conducted in the Aberdeen Corporation Baths. The Elders have a host of friends in that city, and it is believed that many of them will embrace the faith.

Elder Abel G. Rich writes from Tinker Lane, Hoyland Common, as follows:—"It is a pleasure to me to report six more baptisms in this district—two from Royston, one from Barnsley and three from Hoyland Common. The baptismal service was held December 22nd, 1906, in Barnsley Public Baths, Elder John I. Hatch officiating. President Thomas Schofield explained the necessity of baptism to an interested audience. The prejudice that has existed against us is gradually giving way, and quite a number are investigating our doctrines with a desire to know if they are true."

Progress of the Work in the Netherlands-Belgium Mission.—The following highly gratifying report has been received from President Alex. Nibley, of the Netherlands-Belgium Mission: "It gives me pleasure to report the condition of this mission at the close of the year 1906. I have been doing a little checking up and feel much encouraged with the result. Nothwithstanding that we have had seven Elders less in the mission this year than in 1905, and also that one of our conferences was quarantined for two months, we are able to report a great increase over that of the previous year. During 1906, 193,865 tracts and books were distributed—we sold over four times more books than were sold, loaned and given away during the previous year; homes visited with first tract, 17,210; homes visited on re-invitations, 608; Gospel conversations, 3,465; baptisms, an increase of 25 per cent. The Saints have assisted materially in the growth of the work. While many of our best tithe-payers have emigrated to Utah, our tithing receipts have increased about 20 per cent. The STAR has increased its subscription list from 565 to 800, which we consider a good showing. We do not submit these figures in a boastful spirit. We glory not in anything that we have done, but give the praise and the honor to God, whose servants we are, and through whose power we have been able to accomplish this work. We are grateful to Him for having blessed our efforts, and our earnest prayers are that He may assist us in the future, that we may sense the responsibility that rests upon us, and perform faithfully our work."

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

Lesson for January 13, 1907.

38. JUDGMENTS.

1. Judgments awaiting the nations. Isaiah 24: 1-6; 26: 20, 21; Jere. 25: 31-33; Ezek. 38: 14-22; 39: 1-21; Dan. 2: 44; Joel 1: 2-4; Mal. 4: 1; Rev. 9; 16; 18; 19: 11-21; II Nephi 6: 14, 15; 27: 1-3; Doc. and Cov. 29: 9, 14-21; 45: 26-33; 56: 1; 62: 6, 33, 34; 64: 24; 88: 88-91; 97: 22-24; 112: 24; Moses 7: 61; Joseph 1: 28, 29.

2. Judgments to begin at the house of the Lord. I Peter 4: 17, 18; Doc. and Cov. 97: 23-26; 112: 24, 25.

3. Men judged according to their works. Jere. 17: 10; Matt. 12: 36, 37; 16: 27; I Cor. 5: 10; Rev. 20: 12, 13; 22: 11.

LIFE IS TOO SHORT.

Life is too short for any vain regretting;
Let dead delight bury its dead, I say,
And let us go upon our way forgetting
The joys, and sorrows, of each yesterday.
Between the swift sun's rising and its setting,
We have no time for useless tears or fretting,
Life is too short.

Life is too short for any bitter feeling;
Time is the best avenger if we wait.
The years speed by, and on their wings bear healing,
We have no room for anything like hate.
This solemn truth the low mounds seem revealing
That thick and fast about our feet are stealing,
Life is too short.

Life is too short for aught but high endeavor—
Too short for spite, but long enough for love.
And love lives on for ever and for ever,
It links the worlds that circle on above;
'Tis God's first law, the universe's lever.
In His vast realm the radiant souls sigh never
"Life is too short."

SELECTED.

CONTENTS:

The First Presidency's Christmas Greeting 1
Room for the Resurrection 6
The Country Parson 7
Editorial:
Maligning the "Mormons" ... 8
Editorial Notes 10
The Latter-day Saints and the World 11
From the Mission Field 14
Sunday School Lesson for Theological Classes 16
Poetry: Life is too Short 16

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